

I claim:

1. An unloading assembly for handling a roll of material comprising:

a support frame;

5 an elongated rail attached to the support frame and running longitudinally above a holding area for holding the roll of material;

a trolley system attached to the rail and arranged to traverse lengthwise along the rail;

a lifting device attached to the trolley system;

10 a tube having a telescoping member terminating in a first end attachable to the lifting device, and the tube terminating in a second end; and

a support situated outside of the holding area that couples to the second end of the tube for lifting and supporting the second end of the tube.

2. An unloading assembly for handling a roll of material as in claim 1 in which the support

frame includes a plurality of column members, including opposing column members

15 defining a workspace therebetween lengthwise along the holding area, the column

members secured to the holding area by a plurality of brace members, the column

members comprising first column members and second column members coupled

together and adjustable to vary the support frame's height.

3. An unloading assembly for handling a roll of material as in claim 1 in which the support

20 frame includes a plurality of column members and a plurality of cross-members spanning

between the column members and defining a workspace below the cross-members and

between the column members, each of the cross-members include intermediate members

and a center connecting member coupled together and adjustable to vary the support

frame's width.

4. An unloading assembly for handling a roll of material as in claim 1 in which the elongated rail comprises a long narrow angle member with it's apex oriented upward and it's arms oriented downward, the rail adjoining the support frame by a plurality of tie rods providing clearance between the rail and support frame for traverse of the trolley system.

5. An unloading assembly for handling a roll of material as in claim 1 in which the trolley system includes a short angle member with it's arms oriented upward, a pair of bearing wheels connected to the arms of the short angle member and resting on the rail such that the bearing wheels traverse lengthwise along the rail.

10 a support situated outside of the holding area for lifting and supporting the second end of the tube.

6. An unloading assembly for handling a roll of material as in claim 1 in which the support situated outside of the holding area includes a jack in combination with a support arm extending from the jack for holding the second end of the tube, the jack being supported by a stand having castors, and the stand having one or more stabilizing legs telescopically extending from the stand while operable and capable of being stored within the stand while inoperable.

7. A system for unloading a carpet roll from a transport vehicle cargo bay comprising:
a support means having a length greater than the width thereof and having a plurality of cross members, said support means situated within the vehicle cargo bay and having means for mounting a longitudinally mobile hoist means;

a mandrel means having a telescoping member extending from a first end of the mandrel, said telescoping member having means to releasable engage the hoist means

a first rolling jack means situated outside of the vehicle cargo bay for supporting a second end of the mandrel during unloading of the carpet roll;

a means for moving the hoist means rearward within the cargo bay while the first rolling jack means is moved away from the vehicle cargo bay; and

5 a second rolling jack means for supporting the first end of the mandrel or telescoping member upon release of the telescoping member from engagement with the hoist means.

8. A system for unloading a carpet roll from a transport vehicle cargo bay as in claim 7 in which the support means is removable and independent of the vehicle cargo bay.